International Atomic Energy Agency
INFORMATION CIRCULAR

INF

INFCIRC/535
July 1997

GENERAL Distr.
Original: CHINESE
and ENGLISH

COMMUNICATION OF 19 JUNE 1997 RECEIVED FROM THE RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA TO THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

1. On 19 June 1997, the Director General received a letter dated 19 June 1997 from the Resident Representative of the People's Republic of China, regarding the continued participation of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China in the activities of the International Atomic Energy Agency as from 1 July 1997.

2. As requested by the Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China, the text of the letter is attached hereto.

TEXT OF LETTER DATED 19 JUNE 1997 TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL FROM THE RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CHINA

I am instructed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, with reference to the continued participation of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China in the activities of the International Atomic Energy Agency as from 1 July 1997, to inform Your Excellency of the following declaration of the Government of the People's Republic of China:

In accordance with the Joint Declaration of the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the Question of Hong Kong signed in Beijing on 19 December 1984, the People's Republic of China will resume the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong with effect from 1 July 1997. Hong Kong as an inalienable part of the territory of the People's Republic of China will, with effect from that date, become a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China. The People's Republic of China will assume international responsibility for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

The People's Republic of China is a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency. Accordingly, the Government of the People's Republic of China declares that, with effect from 1 July 1997, the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency shall apply to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Representative of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government may participate at the annual general meeting or special meetings of the International Atomic Energy Agency as members of the delegation of the Government of the People's Republic of China. In respect of requests made by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for attending certain scientific or technological meetings organized by the Agency, the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China shall make appropriate arrangement according to the practical needs of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

I am also instructed to declare that the "Revised Supplementary Agreement" signed by the Government of the People's Republic of China and the International Atomic Energy Agency whereby technical assistance from the Agency is received shall apply to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region as from 1 July 1997.

I should be grateful if the contents of this Note could be placed formally on record and brought to the attention of other Member States of the International Atomic Energy Agency.